



WEEK FIVE – JUNE 2024 – PRESCHOOL

Bible Story: *God Will Give Us Joy | Habakkuk 3:17-18*

Key Question: *Who can have joy all the time?*

Bottom Line: *I can have joy all the time*

Memory Verse: *“I will always love you.” Jeremiah 31:3 CEV*

Basic Truth: *God loves me*

Series Overview: This month, we are going to start a party that celebrates the Good News about God! And when God is at the center of our celebration, **I can have joy all the time!** It doesn't sound possible, at first, but then when we think about God . . . who God is . . . what God has done . . . how much God loves us . . . well, that is worth celebrating! God is worth celebrating! All day, every day! So let's **Start The Party!** It's time to celebrate the Good News about God.

9:05 - 9:20 | 11:05 – 11:20 | EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITY

Opening Small Group Activity

Play: An activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts

What You Need: Plastic Bins; Plastic Animals; Large Plastic Serving Spoons

What You Do:

- Place shredded paper in each bin.
- Place the animals in one bin and cover them with the shreds.
- Place both bins in the group circle
- Encourage children to move the animals with the spoon to the empty bin.
- Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

“Come join me around the circle. There are two bins on the ground. Let’s pretend these are our farms. One farm is empty, and the other farm has animals in it.”

“Let’s use these spoons (hold up) to scoop up the animals and move them from this farm (point) to this farm. (Point.) Yay! You did it! Let’s move them back to the other farm. (Repeat as desired.) We can find joy no matter what. We can have joy if our farm has lots of animals and we can have joy when our farm doesn’t have any animals at all.”

“Today in our Bible Story, we’re going to hear all about how a man named Habakkuk had joy even if he had no animals on his farm.”

9:20 - 9:50 | 11:15 – 11:45 – LARGE GROUP

Story Focus: I can have joy no matter what. Habakkuk reminds us that even when things don't go our way, we can still have joy and celebrate because God loves us. Habakkuk prays to God and says that, even if he couldn't grow any food or his farm didn't have any animals, he could still have joy because God loved him. We want our preschoolers to know they can, too, because God loves them too.

9:50 – 10:10 | 11:50 – 12:10 – SMALL GROUP

Four Corners Verse

[Hear From God | Memory Verse Review]

Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

What You Need: “Four Corners Large” and “Four Corners Small” Activity Pages, cardstock, scissors, and painter's tape

What You Do:

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*
 - Copy the “Four Corners Large” on cardstock, one set per Small Group.
 - Tape these pictures in four corners of the room at child's height.
 - Copy the “Four Corners Small” onto cardstock and cut, two sets per Small Group.
- *DURING THE ACTIVITY*
 - Point out the pictures of party items around the room.
 - Shuffle the cards and stack them on the floor, face down.
 - Select a child to flip a card.

- Encourage everyone to find the matching party item on the wall and run to that corner.
- Say the verse together.
- Go back to the stack of cards and ask another child to flip a card.
- Continue until each child has had a turn to flip the cards.
- *AFTER THE ACTIVITY*
 - Review the Bottom Line

What You Say:

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*
 - “Friends, come stand here in the middle with me! Let’s say our verse as we do the motions. Ready? ‘A joyful (*brush flat hands upward twice*) heart (*tap chest twice with fingertip*) is good medicine,’ (*move flat hand from chin to palm*) Proverbs 17:22. (*Open hands like a book.*) Great job!”
- *DURING THE ACTIVITY*
 - “Do you see the party items around the room? What do you see? (*Point to each corner and name the items together.*) Great job! These cards have matching pictures, and when I call your name, draw a card and find the picture that matches on the wall! [Child’s name], draw a card and find the matching picture. (*Pause.*) Lead us to the picture. (*Pause.*) You found the [item]. Let’s say our verse together. ‘*A joyful heart is good medicine,*’ Proverbs 17:22. Super-duper! Let’s go back to the middle and pick another card. (*Continue with each child.*) That was really fun finding all the party pictures with you.”
- *AFTER THE ACTIVITY*
 - “I love our Memory Verse! It reminds us that a joyful heart is like medicine. What does medicine do? It helps us feel better! We can have joy when we remember that God loves us! God gives us joy all the time. **Who can have joy all the time? [Bottom Line] I can have joy all the time!**”

Even When...

[Live for God | Application Activity]

Think: An advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers

What You Need: Butcher paper; washable markers

What You Do:

- Set the butcher paper
- Gather the children around the butcher paper.
- Encourage the children to list some of their favorite things—like food, toys, things to do, etc.
- Write down their answers all over the butcher paper.
- Point to each item as you lead the children to say, “Even if I don’t have (*item on the butcher paper*), I can have joy.”
- Draw a heart or a smiley face around it.
- Repeat with all the items written on the page.
- Review the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

- **BEFORE THE ACTIVITY**
 - “Friends, come gather here around the circle.”
- **DURING THE ACTIVITY**
 - “Let’s make a list of all of our favorite things! What is your favorite food? What is your favorite toy? What is your favorite thing to do? (Write down answers as children share.) This is a great list! Today, we talked about how we can have joy no matter what! Even if I don’t have (point to and say one of the answers), I can have joy. (Draw a heart or smiley face around it.) Even if I don’t have (point to and say one of the answers), I can have joy. (Repeat with remaining items on the list.) When we remember that God loves us, we can have joy. We can have joy even when we don’t have any of our favorite things.”
- **AFTER THE ACTIVITY**
 - “We can have joy all the time, no matter what! **Who can have joy all the time? [Bottom Line] I can have joy all the time!**”